

bethany christian church (disciples of christ)



601 East Mill Road, Evansville, IN 47711

Church Office: 812.422.5439

www.bethanychristianeansville.com

Wi-Fi: Bethany Christian Guest

04/27/2025

Second Sunday of Easter

Bethany Christian Church is an open and affirming congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God. (Romans 15:7).

We at Bethany Christian Church are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ seeking to learn the word, live the grace, and share the love, we welcome ALL to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us with grace and unconditional love and acceptance. So, with open hearts, open minds, and open doors, Bethany Christian Church acknowledges, accepts, and affirms ALL people as equal children of God and affirms OUR commitment to welcome and accept ALL people. Therefore, regardless of race, nationality, culture, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, physical and mental ability, marital standing, or any other designation of individuals who have known the pain of exclusion and discrimination by the church and society, ALL are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and mission of our church.

Visit Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance (<https://disciplesallianceq.org/>) to learn more!

AllianceQ
Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance

Prelude

Music Team

**“The Cause of Christ”
“God of Grace and God of Glory” (vv. 1 & 4)**

#464

Lighting of the Candles (Bringing in the Light of Christ)

Acolyte

Welcome

Rev. Michelle

***Passing of Christ’s Peace**

Rev. Michelle

One: May the peace of Christ be with you!

MANY: And also, with you.

***Invitation to Worship**

John Sterne

One: Why are you here? What do you seek?

MANY: We aren’t hiding. We are here to be filled with God’s Spirit.

One: Renewed and recharged, what will you do?

MANY: We will reveal the living Christ.

One: Let us pray.

***Unison Prayer of Invocation**

John Sterne

ALL: Holy God, thank you for meeting us wherever we are and making it possible for us to see the living Jesus even during times of crisis and chaos. With your help, we will reveal this miracle by giving undeniable proof of his ongoing work to save, bring justice, and love all people. It is in his name we pray. Amen.

One: Please be seated.

Children’s Song

“This Little Light of Mine”

Music Team

Children’s Moment

Rev. Michelle

Song

“Renew Your Church” (vv. 1 & 4)

#463

Scripture

John 20:19-23

John Sterne

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD. AMEN.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Michelle

The Lord’s Prayer (Matthean, KJV)

Congregation

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

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|--------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Invitation to Generosity | | Rev. Michelle |
| Offering Collection | | Deacons |
| *Doxology #46 | | Amy Duncan |
| | Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! | |
| *Prayer of Dedication | | Rev. Michelle |
| Special Music | “The Cause of Christ” by Kari Jobe | Music Team |
| Message | Proof of Life John 20:24-29 | Rev. Michelle |
| Invitation to Discipleship | | Rev. Michelle |
| *Song | “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” | #419 |
| Service of Communion | | |
| Invitation to our Lord’s Table | | Rev. Michelle |
| Blessing of Elements | | Barb Hester |
| Words of Institution | | Rev. Michelle |
| Passing & Sharing of Elements | | Congregation |
| *Closing Song | “Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord” | Music Team |
| *Blessing | | Rev. Michelle |
| | Please rise in body or spirit and join with me in our closing Blessing. | |
| | One: Go forward, knowing Jesus lives. ALL: Within us and through us, Christ Jesus lives today. | |
| *Exit | God bless and have a wonderful week! | Matt Rundle |

Prayer List

If you have any joys or prayer concerns or have someone to be removed from the list, please send them to bethanychristianprayers@gmail.com

We continue to hold in prayer:

Linda Appel, Steve Appel, Caroline Ashby, Stacy Baier, Nancy Boner, Steve Buckert, John Bunner, Family of John Cheadle, Stevie Chivlare, Dave Cox, Nita Cox, Steve Cox, Ron Dennis, Family of Gary Dorsey, Michelle Gilles, Cale Harper, Donna Harper, Barb Hester, Family & Friends of Diane Huett, Mary Jane Hunt, Katie Kelly, Lisa King, Ruth & Joe Lenko, Jeff Main, Nancy McGuyer, Debby Miller, Wes & JoAnn Mitchell, Angie Moers, Mary & Mike Pruiett, Jordan & Melanie Rundle, Lisa Russell, Frank Rynkiewich, Nancy Slaton, Sheila Smith, Julia Wood, Myra Woolsey

Upcoming Dates

Sunday April 27, 2025 – Church Board Meeting after Worship.

Tuesday April 29, 2025 – Tai Chi 4:00 p.m., Art Journeys 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 30, 2025 – Choir 6:30 p.m.

Saturday May 3, 2025 – Indiana Women's Council Meeting 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Sunday May 4, 2025 – Food Pantry Offering, Elder's Meeting after Worship

******* Monday May 5 thru Sunday May 11 Pastor will be on Retreat*******

ENTER TO WORSHIP – LEAVE TO SERVE

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| Pastor | Rev. Michelle Brown | Secretary/Bookkeeper | Dana Johnson |
| Minster of Music | Matt Rundle | Custodian | Linda Moore |
| Pianist | Amy Duncan | | |
| Band Members: Chris Gibson, Mason Hammonds, Jean Page, John Rich, and Shawn Sterne | | | |

Serving Today: Elder: Barb Hester, **Liturgist:** John Sterne, **Deacons:** John Sterne & Deena Gibson, & **Children's Worship and Wonder Storyteller:** Sheri Cox

Serving Next Sunday, May 5, 2025: Elder: Terresa Austin, **Liturgist:** Betty Barchet, **Deacons:** Sheri Cox & Trent Perry, & **Children's Worship and Wonder Storyteller:** Vanessa Wagler

Learn the Word - Live the Grace - Share the Love

Our Identity: *Bethany Christian Church is a loving family of Christians, faithfully serving God and caring for others as we seek to support the wellbeing and spiritual growth of all people.*

Our Values: *We are driven by the values of love, welcome, and care for all. We practice the radical inclusion of Jesus who crossed boundaries of faith and convention to serve, empower, and embrace everyone.*